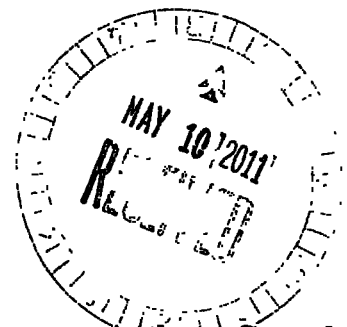


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CITY OF ATHENS



Anthony Casteel, AICP
Community Development Director

May 5, 2011

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

229478

Re: CSX Transportation Abandonment of the Athens Branch in McMinn County, Tennessee, (STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub. No. 699X))

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Athens located in McMinn County, Tennessee to request another 180 day extension of the deadline for negotiations with CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT"), regarding the Notice of Interim Trail Use in the above captioned proceeding with respect to the 0.22 mile portion of the line ("the Athens Branch") of railroad on CSXT's Southern Region, Huntington - West Division, KD Subdivision, extending from milepost OKW 333.40 to milepost OKW 333.62, in Athens, McMinn County, TN.

Pursuant to the November 2, 2010 decision ("the Decision") of the Surface Transportation Board ("the Board"), an agreement for interim trail use/rail banking expires May 5, 2011 ("Negotiating Deadline").

The City of Athens respectfully requests an extension to November 5, 2011 (180 calendar days for the Negotiating Deadline). CSX Transportation has acknowledged that it concurs with this request and will file a letter of concurrence once it receives a copy of this letter.

In addition, the County respectfully requests a waiver of the Boards filing fees in accordance with 49 CFR 1002.2(eXI).

Sincerely


Anthony Casteel, AICP

Cc: Bruce McMahon

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Office of Proceedings

MAY 10 2011

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